

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/736,280

Examiner

Prasad R Akkapeddi

Applicant(s)

KIM, JUNG-KI

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 05/03/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☒ to Paper No./Mail Date 11.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>05/03/2004</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission of the IDS filed on 05/03/2004 has been entered.

Drawings

2. In order to avoid abandonment, the drawing informalities noted in Paper No. 11, mailed on 08/07/2003, must now be corrected. Correction can only be effected in the manner set forth in the above noted paper. A duplicate copy of 'Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review – PTO 948) is attached for convenience.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-16 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

A search of the prior art did not disclose a liquid crystal display comprising a combination of structural elements, more specifically:

(a) A lamp cover covering the upper portion and the side portion and exposing the lower portion of the lamp and a rear reflector plate arranged below the lower surface of the light guide plate and extended to cover the lower portion of the lamp.

(b) A mold frame for accommodating the lamp, the lamp cover, the light guide plate, the rear reflector plate and the liquid crystal panel and exposing the lower portion of the lamp and a back cover attached to the mold frame to support the extended portion of the rear plate.

(c) A lamp cover covering the upper portion and the side portion and a rear reflector plate formed below the bottom surface of the light guide plate and having a portion extended to cover the lower portion of the lamp, and a supporting member pressing the extended portion of the reflector plate toward the lamp unit.

The prior art submitted by the applicant in the IDS dated 05/03/2004 has been considered and in the Examiner's opinion, none of the cited prior art discloses the recited limitations in the instant claims. For example: (a) Mashino et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,886,759) teaches the use of a lamp (36) that is enclosed all around by a reflector (66), including the lower portion (Fig. 1A). Hence does not disclose the exposing of the lower portion as recited in the instant claims.

(b) Ohta et al. (5,673,128) also discloses that the lamp (1a) is enclosed by a reflector (2a) on all sides (Fig. 1) and,

(c) Winston et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,528,720) also teaches that the lamp (217) is enclosed by the reflector (218) on all sides including the lower portion (Fig. 12 O).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prasad R Akkapeddi whose telephone number is 571-272-2285. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00AM to 5:30PM M-Th.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert H Kim can be reached on 571-272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

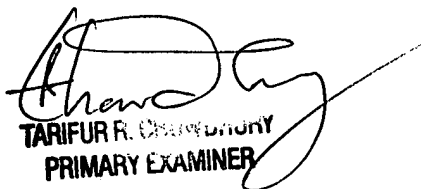
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PRA


TARIFUR R. CHOWDHURY
PRIMARY EXAMINER